



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/782,445	02/12/2001	Josh Goldfoot		2473

7590 05/06/2004  
JOSH GOLDFOOT  
629 Nelson ST.  
Arlinton, VA 22203

EXAMINER

LE, BRIAN Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/782,445

Applicant(s)

GOLDFOOT, JOSH

Examiner

Brian Q Le

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 February 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

*Election/Restrictions*

1. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 2-5 (claim 1 has been cancelled) in Paper No. 6 is acknowledged.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takasaki U.S. Patent No. 4,969,201.

Regarding claim 2, Takasaki teaches a method of identifying an important point in a scribble between a first point in said scribble and a second point in said scribble, said first point not equal to said second point and said first point not equal to said important point and said second point not equal to said important point (FIG. 3), the method comprising the steps of:

- a. Finding a third point on the scribble between said first point and said second point, such that the distance between said third point and a postulated line (line connecting point together) extending through said first point and said second point is equal to or greater than the distance (column 4, lines 40-44) between said postulated line and any other point between said first point and said second point (please refer to FIG. 4 and column 4, lines 28-68 for an extensive coverage of this limitation);
- b. Identifying said third point as an important point if the distance between said third point and said postulated line meets predetermined criteria (column 5, lines 1-4).

Art Unit: 2623

Referring claim 3, Takasaki teaches the method wherein said predetermined criteria includes comparing said distance between said third point and said postulated line to a constant value (column 6, lines 12).

For claims 4-5, please refer back to claim 2 for further explanation.

### *CONCLUSION*

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to determining point and distance between points:

U.S. Pat. No. 5,546,476 to Mitaka, teaches shape recognition.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,606,629 to Shirakawa, teaches figure recognition apparatus.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,633,955 to Bozinovic, teaches method of connecting shapes on a display of a computer system.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,208,757 to Sinden, teaches method for reconstructing handwritten symbols from parametric representations thereof.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,610,996 to Eller, teaches method for arc segmentation in handwriting recognition.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,623,555 to Nelson, teaches method for handwriting decompression using estimated timing information.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,101,280 to Reynolds, teaches method for compression of electronic ink.

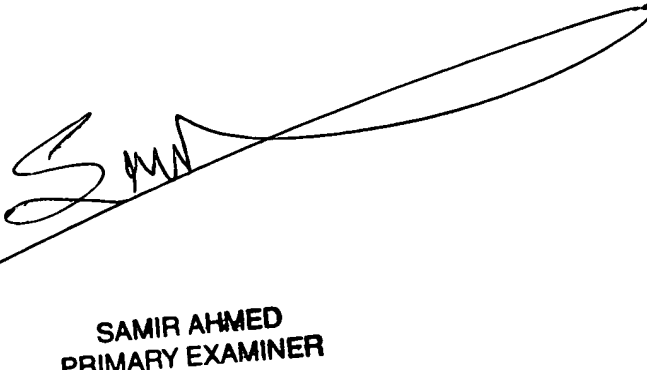
Art Unit: 2623

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Q Le whose telephone number is 703-305-5083. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 A.M - 5:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on 703-308-6604. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to TC Customer Service whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

BL  
April 20, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SAMIR AHMED', is written over a long, thin, slightly curved line that spans across the signature area.

**SAMIR AHMED  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**